

Vernon events

VOLUME 1 • QUARTER 2 • 2015



DELIVERING TOWN NEWS

TO EVERYONE IN TOWN

Local Cruises & Car Shows

June 2015

15, 22, 29 Marks Cruise 5-9
East Granby

15 Naval Veterans Show 6-9
Bridgeport

17, 24 Sun Valley 6-8
Stafford Springs

18, 25 Trantolo Classic show 6-8
Enfield

19, 26 Tri Town Cruzers 5pm-dusk
Vernon

21 Cruzin Hebron 4-7
Hebron

25 Eagles Cruise night 6-9
Norwalk

27 Mopars in Motion 5-10
New Britain

28 6th Annual Antique/Classic show 9am-3pm
Shelton

20,27 Loos & Co. 3pm-dark
Pomfret Center

28 Cruise for cancer 9am
Putnam

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August 2015

1 Annual Bug-a-fair
Terryville

2 Cruisin on Main
Manchester

1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Loos & Co. 3pm-dark
Pomfret Center

9 Down town Super Cruise
Putnam

3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Marks Cruise 5-9
East Granby

4 Bolton Motors Car Show 5-8
Bolton

5, 12, 19, 26 Sun Valley 6-8
Stafford Springs

6, 13, 20, 27 Trantolo Classic 6-8
Enfield

6 Eagles Cruise Night 6-9
Norwalk

7, 14, 21, 28 Tri Town Cruzers 5-dusk
Vernon

9 Rte 66 Cruise night 3-7
Middletown

10 Over the Hill Gang 10am-3pm
Manchester

14 Dragone Classic Motorcars 6-9
Westport

15 Autorama 10am-4pm
Berlin

17 Naval Veterans Car Show 6-9
Bridgeport

22 KIDSAFECT car show 9am
Vernon

September 2015

1 Bolton Motors Car Show 5-8
Bolton

5, 12, 19, 26 Loos & Co. 3pm-dark
Pomfret Center

2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Sun Valley 6-8
Stafford Springs

3, 10 Trantolo Classic 6-8
Enfield

3, 24 Eagles Cruise Night 6-9
Norwalk

4, 11, 18, 25 Tri Town Cruzers 5-dusk
Vernon

6 Food Shelf Car Show 9am-3pm
Enfield

7 Marks Car Cruise 5-9
East Granby

11 Dragone Classic Motorcars 6-9
Westport

13 Teds IGA Fall Cruze 4-7
Hebron

13 Rte 66 Cruisers club 3-7
Middletown

17 Naval Veterans Car Show 6-9
Bridgeport

20 Innovators Show & Shine 9am-3pm
Enfield

26 Rockville Fest Car Show 10am-3
Vernon/Rockville

27 Annual Car show Rocky Hill Food pantry
Rocky Hill

The Mayor's Corner

Welcome Back!!!!

Spring is in full swing and the Town of Vernon is anticipating a full summer of fun programs and activities for children and adults alike. Hopefully everyone had a great year in school and is looking forward to their summer vacation.

We are hoping that you are enjoying the Vernon Events Magazine concept and all it has to offer. In this issue you will find all kinds of announcements for activities and events coming up within our borders and updates on projects from our previous issue.

I hope you all enjoyed the Memorial Day Parade. A special thank you to the American Legion Post 14 and all their volunteers, as well as our very own Parks and Recreation staff for giving us the best parade yet. Details about our next townwide event "July in the Sky Fireworks Display", can be found in this edition of Vernon Events Magazine.

Rosetta Pitkat

Our cover story this quarter is one of historical significance and generosity. Rosetta Pitkat, a long time resident of our town has donated funds to restore the iconic Cogswell sculpture in Central Park. Read her story and see pictures from the rededication held this month. Ms. Pitkat is a wonderful example of someone giving back to our community and promoting preservation of our history. Thank you to Leslie Campolongo, our feature photographer, for the cover photo for this edition.

The Eckert Hill Disc Golf Course

The Eckert Hill Disc Golf Course is ready and waiting for you to visit and play. You will find all the details in the Parks and Recreation section of the magazine along with summer programs for children and much, much more.

As you will see, as you read through the pages of this magazine, all the Town Departments have added valuable information and "did you know", kinds of notes to assist you. One major project to note is the eco-friendly rehabilitation of 19 Grove Street, located on Paper Mill Pond. In the coming months you will see workers on the property dismantling and removing structures and cleaning up, a project that is long overdue. In closing, we are always looking for volunteers for our boards and commission as well as historical articles and photographs to be used in future issues of this magazine. Please consider participating in your community and its many activities. We all need to put our best foot forward to make Vernon the best community it can be!



Mayor Daniel A. Champagne

Happy Summer!

Dan Champagne, Mayor



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Vernon's Mill Reawakening

The remnants of Vernon / Rockville's rich industrial past sit not only as a reminder of what this town once was, but also offers possibilities and opportunities to provide for what we can be once again. Redeveloping these massive structures, however, is no simple task. After decades of neglect, these sites carry countless obstacles, environmental questions and huge price tags. While there is an abundance of these former mill properties in need of attention in New England very few towns have 4 mill sites being renovated at the same time. At present, 215 East Main Street-(Loom City Lofts) 47 Main Street-(Talcott Brothers Mill), 200 West Main Street (Hockanum Mill) and the former Amerbelle site located at 104 East Main Street are all in various stages of redevelopment, with plans for housing, retail and prime office space. The simple fact is that there is a long road ahead of us, but Vernon is in a fantastic position to be recognized as the community where our historic past meets 21st century future redevelopment. That's something to be proud of.

We are not a community that sits around waiting for things to happen. We get on the trails and create adventure; We are not only on the grid, but an integral part of it; Our town was formed by innovative people, and will continue to be shaped by the innovators of tomorrow.



Vernon, CT is **On the Move**.

A rendering of Loom City Lofts, which when completed will contain 68 apartments.



Hockanum Mill is currently being restored by Ken Kaplan and Kaplan Mill Works with proposals to house motorcycle sales and service, motorcycle museum, restaurant and a variety of other uses.



At present an assessment is being undertaken at the former Amerbelle property for possible environmental concerns in order to ready the site for redevelopment. 1st Alliance Lending plans on developing their new corporate headquarters on this site.



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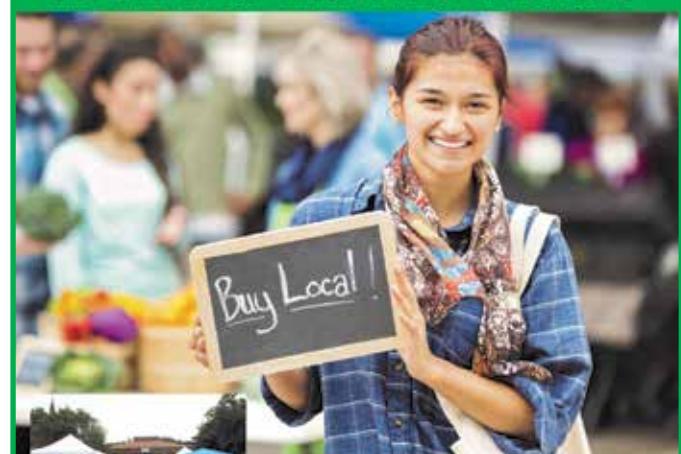
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 Reg \$6185 **Sale \$5257**
(shown with cupola upgrade)



12x24 T-1-11 Dutch or Cape Garage
 Reg \$6985 **Sale \$5937**
(shown with double door upgrade)

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12x24 T-1-11 Manor Cape Garage
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(shown with carriage door, cupola
 & transoms upgrade)

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14x28 Vinyl Elite Cape Garage
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(shown with carriage door
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Dr. Henry D. Cogswell Fountain

Mayor Daniel A. Champagne announces that the replica of the Dr. Henry D. Cogswell Fountain has been fully restored and returned to the Town's Central Park Green.

Mrs. Rosetta Pitkat, a one hundred-two year old lifelong resident of Vernon whose generosity commissioned the replicated statue, attended the unveiling ceremony. "The Town of Vernon is most grateful for the generosity of Mrs. Pitkat and her commitment to seeing the statue returned to the citizens of Vernon," said Mayor Champagne. About thirty guests attended the ceremony including friends of Mrs. Pitkat, Council members, the Superintendent of Schools, residents, and town employees.

"Mrs. Pitkat has a lengthy history of charitable acts," said Champagne. "In addition to her donation to restore the fountain, she has also given generously to our schools," he said. Pitkat, a teacher in the Vernon School system for thirty-five years, gave \$100,000 as scholarship funds for a Rockville High senior who is pursuing teaching. "She has an enduring love and appreciation for Rockville, and it's only fitting we honor her request to see this statue stand again on the town green," said Champagne.

The iconic Cogswell sculpture had been removed for inspection in March of 2013, due to several stress fractures. "I would also like to thank Bundy Motors for their craftsmanship in repairing and restoring the Cogswell Statue, it looks remarkable," said Champagne. The sculpture had

been re-installed in 2004, a part of the beautification of Central Park.

Originally cast in zinc alloy 1883, the first



Contents

Mayor's Corner	1
Vernon's Mill Reawakening	2
Dr. Henry D. Cogswell Fountain	4
Agricultural Science & Technology	5
Senior Center	6
Officer of the Year	7
Consumer Fraud	7
Summer Academy	8
Recycling	9
Road Work Progress	9
Fire Safety Tips	10
EMS	10
Parks & Recreation	11-16
Disc Golf	17
Summer Days Carnival	17
I Want You for the PPPPP	18
Housing Rehab Project	18
Downtown Rockville Fun & Food	18
19 Grove Street	18
Vernon Town Directory	19
Greenways Volunteers	19
Friends of Valley Falls	20
Tax Collector	20
Garden Club	21
Youth Services Bureau	21
Volunteers Collaborative	22
Is Your Smart Phone Killing You?	22
Town Clerk Reminders	22
Rockville Farmers Market	23
Rockville Downtown Celebration	23
July in the Sky	24-25
Rockville Public Library	26
From the Town Clerks Office	26
Essex Printing Wins Award	27

Cogswell fountain was topped with a life-sized statue of Cogwell holding a glass of water in one hand and a copy of the Temperance Pledge in the other. It was erected in honor of Dr.

Henry Cogswell's cousin, William T. Cogswell, a local builder.

Dr. Henry Cogswell was a millionaire dentist, temperance crusader, and philanthropist. He pledged to erect a fountain for every 100 saloons across the country.

On July 4, 1885, the statue was stolen and dumped into Snipsic Lake. After its recovery, it disappeared a short time later. On July 4, 1908, the statue appeared again as part of the Town's Centennial Celebration. The statue was eventually donated and melted as part of the World War II scrap metal drive.

"Vernon is fortunate to have a rich and colorful history," said Champagne. "Any time we can take a moment together, as a community, and celebrate our heritage, it's a good day," he said.

The Agricultural Science & Technology Program at RHS:

Consider the original magnet model

Did you know that the town of Vernon hosts a regional Agricultural Education Program, serving ten towns, at Rockville High School? This amazing opportunity allows students to pursue their agricultural interest as part of a comprehensive high school education. Upon successful completion of the program and graduation from high school, students may enter college, join the workforce or start their own business.

Agriculture contributes 4.6 billion dollars each year to the Connecticut economy, (source: UCONN Economic Impact Study, revised 2014). The agricultural industry is diverse as well as expansive and perpetually requires an educated work force.

Agricultural Education, or more accurately, the Agricultural Science and Technology (ASTE) Program, provides students with the skills and experiences needed to be college and career ready. Students engage in a model of education that includes agricultural content, leadership training and work experience. Content includes courses in animal science, plant science, agricultural mechanics, natural resources and aquaculture. Leadership training

through the FFA organization provides students with opportunities to cultivate their skills in public speaking, decision-making and career exploration. In addition, each student develops a Supervised Agricultural Experience Program, (SAEP), that allows them to gain real world experience through employment, volunteerism, research or entrepreneurship.

Do graduates of the Ag program go to college? Absolutely! Schools such as: UCONN, MCC, SUNY Cobleskill, Paul Smith, Unity, Virginia Tech, and Fordham to name a few.

Why should your student consider the Agricultural Science and Technology program at RHS?

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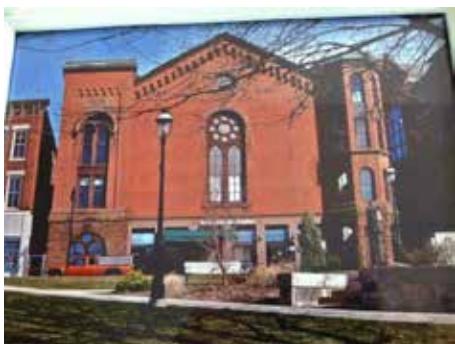
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Vernon Senior Center



Come and join us and be prepared to make new friends, learn something helpful or just have a good time. If you are unfamiliar with the Center, we host a Newcomer's Meeting on the 4th Thursday of the month at 1:30pm. It is a time to meet other seniors, take a tour of the Center and learn about our programs & activities.

The Center's on-going activities are too numerous to list but here are a few in the spotlight.

Scrabble: Tuesdays at 1:00pm – Did you play scrabble as a child? Come and renew

your passion for the game.

Crochet & Knitting: Wednesdays at 10:00am – Our knitting group is very welcoming, friendly & helpful.

Pinochle: Tuesdays & Thursdays at 12:45pm- Calling all pinochle players. Come & join the fun.

For a complete listing of activities, check the Town's website or stop by the Center to pick up a newsletter and calendar. To receive the newsletter by e-mail, go to the Town's Website, www.vernon-ct.gov, click on Departments, then click on Senior Center & follow the prompts.

Upcoming Trips

Lobster Bash and Show on Tuesday, July 21st at Amarante's Sea Cliff. The restaurant is located on the shore in East Haven with a panoramic view, overlooking Long Island Sound. The menu includes appetizers along with a Down East Clam Bake of 1 1/4 lb. lobster or almond encrusted pork tenderloin, clam chowder, corn on the cob, roasted potatoes, steamed mussels, barbecue chicken and strawberry short cake for dessert. Entertainer, Jodi Lambert, will perform her "My Name Is Barbra" Show, paying tribute to Barbra Streisand. She has the Streisand look and sound. Cost \$85 per person includes all taxes and gratuities.

Boston Tea Party Museum on Wednesday, August 26th. Join us for a wonderful day in Boston. We'll begin our day at Faneuil Hall Marketplace for lunch on your own. Explore the hall which has shops, restaurants and street performers and musicians. After lunch, we will go to the Boston Tea Party Museum where we will experience an incredible journey back in time. We will meet the colonists, explore the ships and dump tea overboard just like the Sons of Liberty. Lastly, we'll stop at Abigail's Tea Room for teatime.

We'll enjoy a cup of tea, assorted pastries all served by colonial ladies. You will be given a souvenir mug to take home. Cost is \$71 per person includes all taxes and gratuities.

Overnight Trip

Travel to Bethlehem, Reading & Lancaster Pennsylvania for the "Joseph" show on October 12-14, for 3 Days/2 Nights. Tour highlights include Sands Resort Casino, wine & cheese reception, a sit down dinner & a live Musical Comedy Show, 2 nights at Crowne Plaza Hotel, 2 breakfasts, dinner at Shady Maple Smorgasbord, Chalk Talk Artistry Show, American Treasure Tour and "Joseph" Show which is of epic proportions, based on the classic Biblical story, appearing for a limited engagement at the Millennium Theater. Cost is \$479 per person double occupancy. Trip insurance is extra.

"Seniorhood" Fair

The Vernon Multidisciplinary Team is seeking exhibitors/vendors for its "Seniorhood Fair" scheduled Saturday, October 24th from 10:00am-3:00pm. Our goal is to create awareness of services and products designed to enhance the quality of life for our senior population. Exhibit fees are \$25 for non-profit organization and \$100 for profit organization. Contact the Senior Center for more information.





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Officer of the Year



Congratulations to Vernon's newest officer of the year, Officer Danny Macaulay.

On March 25, 2015 the Vernon Police Department held its annual awards night to honor the accomplishments of its members, citizens and other agency officers who distinguished themselves during the past year. As part of the award ceremony the awards committee selects a member of the department

as the Officer of the Year. The Officer of the Year award is presented to the department member who has throughout the year consistently shown exceptional dedication to duty, superior performance, motivation, and a positive attitude in the service of the department and the community. The 2014 Officer of the Year award was presented to Officer Danny Macaulay, a 14 year veteran of the department.

Officer Macaulay has been a Police Officer with the Vernon Police Department since September 2002. During his time with the Vernon Police Department, along with his regular duties as a patrol officer, Officer Macaulay has served as a Field Training Officer and a K9 handler. During 2014 Officer Macaulay had several high profile cases which resulted in two arrests for burglary, a stalking arrest, a fraud arrest and numerous domestic violence arrests. Officer Macaulay is highly respected amongst his peers and is a role model to other officers. During his career Officer Macaulay has consistently displayed exceptional, dedication to duty, superior performance, motivation, and a positive attitude while serving the Vernon Police Department and the community. Officer Macaulay's professionalism is a standard to be admired and achieved. Because of his hard work, dedication and positive attitude, Officer Danny Macaulay is the 2014 Officer of the Year.

Avoid Being a Victim of Consumer Fraud

Your debit card was suspended, you missed jury duty and there's a warrant, your grandson is in jail out of state or "Where's that tax refund!?" All these things and many others usually have one thing in common – someone is trying to defraud you and many times, it happens online. Consumer fraud is on the rise locally and nationwide and, partly as a result of cutting edge technology, finding the culprit can be very difficult if not impossible. The best solution? Avoid being a victim. First, be aware. The more you know about current scams, the less likely you are to fall prey to an attack. The AARP and the FTC both have detailed information about scams, local and national, on their websites. Also, no reputable business makes calls from a blocked or restricted phone numbers. Don't accept them and never take Caller ID at face value. The number you see may not be who is calling. Many people have recently filed tax returns, expecting a refund. Unfortunately, the IRS paid out billions

in refunds on phony tax returns last year. If you suspect tax fraud, make a report to police and the Federal Trade Commission.

Established businesses will never ask for sensitive information such as a password or social security number so don't react blindly when someone wants information. Ask questions about who they are, where they work and why the information is needed. If it's a bank, call back yourself at the number on your statement or credit card.

If you still have concerns, local police can always help and almost every large business has a fraud reporting link on their website. You can also use IC3 (www.ic3.gov), which is a cooperative effort by the FBI. They don't actually investigate but will use your information to alert the proper authorities if you're not sure who to call.

Remember, you are your own best defense against fraud.

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Vernon Summer Academy

Not Your Traditional Summer School Program

To many students, the utterance of "Summer School" paints a picture of an experience that would completely ruin a child's summer. Over the course of the past few years, the Vernon Elementary Summer Academy has been working hard to overcome this stigma, and create a summer program that is educational and enjoyable for all students no matter where they are academically. Although the traditional summer school program, known as Summer Academy, focuses mainly on the development of reading, writing, and math skills, there have been changes made to make the summer experience more positive for our students.

To start, last year the Summer Academy began taking weekly field trips every Thursday to various locations around the state. Last year, with funding from Vernon's Educational Foundation, the students visited UConn Dairy Farm, Wickham Park, and Dinosaur State Park. These field trips were designed to give new experiences to our students, and help them build more background knowledge, which in return helps with reading comprehension and classroom conversations. This year the Summer Academy is taking another field trip to Wickham Park, which was the favorite field trip from last year. Also, this year we are going to bring in a special program to Center Road School, which is the hosting school of Summer Academy this year.

In addition to some extracurricular activities, Vernon Public Schools also offers an enrichment program through Summer Academy. The Discovery Program is designed to provide students with opportunities to learn about subjects that they are not exposed to throughout the school year. All programs offered in the Discovery Program are run by certified teachers within the Vernon School District. This year some of the programs include; Photography, Cartooning, Spanish, Weird Science, Reader's Theatre, and Scrapbooking (to see a full course offering please visit the Vernon Public School website at www.vernonpublicschools.org).

Vernon Summer Academy and Discovery Program are fully staffed with a fulltime administrator, classroom teachers, para-educators, and a school nurse. Class sizes are intentionally kept small, to allow for more individualized and small group instruction. All instruction is directly aligned with the Common Core, and helps students develop skills necessary to be successful in their upcoming grade. The Summer Academy integrates technology such as SmartBoards, Chromebooks, iPads, and document cameras to make learning more authentic for our students.

To enroll for any of our summer programs please see your child's home school, or visit our district's website.

Summer Academy General Information at a glance:

Dates: July 7th – July 31st (Tuesday – Friday)
Time: 8:30 – 11:15
Place: Center Road School
Cost: Summer Academy \$80 for 4 weeks / \$65 for 3 weeks
Discovery Program \$40 per session

Grades: Kindergarten – Fifth

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How Recycling Helps Our Town... & the Town's Budget



Each year Vernon residents recycle over 5 million pounds of materials through the Town's curbside recycling program, but they also throw away about 29 million pounds of refuse, a large part of which could have been recycled. That's well over a quarter million dollars worth of recyclable materials that ends up in landfills, not in the Town's budget where it could be used to provide services, reduce property taxes, and protect the environment.

Recycling not only saves valuable space in our landfills, but it also

helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions. And when we recycle, we also have to use fewer resources like water and energy to turn that item into another usable item. Recycling is good for us, the planet, and it can also save you money. The Town pays about \$62 per ton to dispose of refuse, but the Town is paid \$20 for every ton of recycling we collect.

Single-stream recycling is a system in which all recyclables, including newspaper, cardboard, plastic, aluminum, junk mail, etc., are placed in a single bin or cart for recycling. These recyclables are collected by a single truck and taken to a Materials Recovery Facility to be sorted into various commodity streams for sale to markets.

Visit the Department of Public Works page on the Town's website to learn more about all the items you can put in your blue cart for recycling including telephone books. The Town Transfer Station also accepts many recyclable items for free including electronics and metal.

Road Work Progress in Vernon

2014 was a very productive year for the Department of Public Works Road Bond package. Year 1's work was accomplished for more than \$1,000,000 under budget. Work was completed on 50 roads including full depth reclamation, cold in place recycling, and milling. DPW employees replaced/repaired 133 catch basins, surveyed 1,013 drainage structures, and removed/replaced over 150 sewer frames.

Work in 2015 will include improvement to over 60 streets. The work will consist of reclamation, milling, chip sealing and application of ultra-thin hot mix asphalt. The order in which roads are worked on can change. This winter was especially harsh on many roads and some were moved ahead. Others may be delayed by utility work while some require more extensive engineering review. More information is available on the Town's website.

It only takes a short drive around Town to see the work being done and recognize the value that good roads bring for safety, aesthetics, pride in our community, increased business opportunity, and housing value.



Tips for Driving Safely in Work Zones:

- Expect The Unexpected!
- Slow Down!
- Keep A Safe Distance Between Your Vehicle And The Construction Workers And Their Equipment.
- Obey Road Crew Flaggers!
- Stay Alert And Minimize Distractions!
- Schedule Enough Time To Drive Safely
- Be Patient And Stay Calm.

(Work zones aren't there to personally inconvenience you. Remember, the work zone crew members are working to improve the road and make your future drive better.)

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Fire Safety Tips

From the Town of Vernon Fire Department

What I need to know about FIRE?



Fire can and might happen to you! You must be prepared and have the knowledge to escape safely. Fire is darker, smokier, hotter, and faster than you can imagine. You must know what fire is like to increase the chances of a safe escape. The following are four important facts to remember:

1. Smoke is dark. Most people expect fire to be light. For this reason, people have been trapped in their homes because they could not find their way out in the dark -- they didn't have a flashlight and didn't practice an escape plan.
2. Smoke can be deadly. Since most fire fatalities occur between 2 a.m. and 6 a.m. when most people are sleeping -- the only thing standing between the deadly fumes of fire and a safe escape maybe the piercing sound of a smoke alarm.
3. Fire has intense heat. Fire can cause the temperature to rise several hundred degrees in just seconds. The heat is so intense that it can cause the human body to stop functioning altogether -- one breath can cause severe lung damage. The heat alone can cause someone to become unconscious and not be able to escape. Escape time can be valuable.
4. Time is critical. A residential home can be totally consumed in flames in less than five minutes from the start of a fire! A home fire can double in size in just 30 seconds.* You must know what

to do in order to help get you and your family out safely. A closed door is often the best way to stall a fire; by closing the door, you may save yourself seconds to use an alternate escape route. Fire is a deadly threat to any household. It can strike anywhere, at any time. The frightening truth is that in 2005, there were nearly 381,000 home fires in the U.S. resulting in over 16,000 injuries and deaths combined*. You must be prepared by using the tools for fire protection.

Smoke alarms provide a warning of fire. Smoke alarms are the easiest, most cost-efficient way to alert your family of a developing fire. The more smoke alarms you have installed in your home, the more your chances increase that you will be alerted to a fire. Smoke Detectors have an effective life span of 10 years; if you are not sure how old your detectors are, replace them. Newer detectors now have long-life 10-year lithium batteries -- eliminates the need for battery replacement for the 10-year life of the alarm.

Meet your TVFD Firefighters!

Alfred (Smokey) Dreher - Joined the old Rockville Fire Department 8/14/1950!



He is our oldest active member at 80 years old. This year in August, he will have served faithfully for 65 years! Smokey now serves as a Fire Police member. They assist the fire and police departments with traffic control at emergency incidents.

Vernon EMS

The Town Of Vernon Fire Department / EMS Division has recently completed training and implementation of their medical skill level to include the use of Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) and the administration of Naloxone to its crews which will assist greatly in the effective care of the residents and community at large.

CPAP is a facemask like device which delivers increased continuous pressure to the lungs and is applied to patients who meet certain criteria. By assisting the patients with the increased pressure it

helps in reducing their work of breathing and has kept patients from being placed on more invasive airway treatments and mechanical ventilators which may lead to more medical problems later on.

Naloxone is an Opioid drug antagonist which may reverse life threatening respiratory depression secondary to overdoses of opioids. One of the more concerning issues with opioid overdoses accidental or not, is patients may begin to have respiratory depression which very quickly will turn into respiratory arrest. This fast acting medication is delivered via what is called a

nasal atomizer through your nostrils and is absorbed by your nasal mucosa rapidly and will help the body create its respiratory drive once again.

Members Wanted:

We are always seeking new members. If you want to make a difference in your community and want to feel good about yourself then you should think about joining our organization. It's an experience that you will enjoy and never forget.

E-mail: recruitment@vernon-ct.gov

Vernon Parks & Recreation Department

New website & registration site! www.VernonRec.org

Be sure to visit the site, create a household account and register for a program right there!

STAFF DIRECTORY

General..... 860-870-3520
Director..... Bruce Dinnie
Assistant Director..... Steve Krajewski
Recreation Supervisor..... Rich Durkee

Recreation Supervisor..... Amy Locandro Watt
Park Foreman..... Mark Dziedzinski
Park Maintainer..... Mitch Reid
Park Maintainer..... Mark Lucas

Park Maintainer..... Rob Arthur
Park Maintainer..... Kevin Clements
Park Maintainer..... Nick Wheelock
Park Maintainer..... Nick Petrolito

FREQUENTLY REQUESTED NUMBERS

Rockville Little League / Jason Hahn..... 860-982-6783
Vernon Youth Baseball Org / Marc Collins 860-256-7200
Girls' Little League Softball / Rob Silver 860-729-6961
Vernon Youth Soccer / Jeff Parizeau 860-948-0422
Youth Hockey / Jim Larza..... 860-529-5295
Boys Youth Lacrosse / Bruce Gezelman 860-870-9461
Girls Youth Lacrosse / Jim Peters 860-966-7589

Over 55 Softball / Bob Lathrop..... 860-614-1421
Vernon Orioles / Steve Krajewski..... 860-870-3520
Junior Women's Club / Nancy Carter 860-989-3170
Vernon Animal Control 860-870-3558
Indian Valley Y.M.C.A. 860-872-7329
Vernon Youth Football www.vernonyouthfootball.com

Registration & General Information

CONSIDER YOURSELF REGISTERED - if you do not hear from us. You will be notified if a change occurs or if the program is filled. You are automatically put on the waiting list and your payment returned if the class is filled at the time your registration is received. Assume classes will begin on the dates listed. If you would like a receipt, please enclose a SASE with your registration. All programs are open for registration unless otherwise noted in the program description. You may register on-line at www.vernonrec.org.

Insurance

All persons participating in Recreation programs should carry their own personal health insurance. The Town of Vernon is not responsible for personal injuries. Participants in all Department sponsored programs participate at their own risk. Only those enrolled in the program may attend.

ADA

The Town of Vernon does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or disability in provision of programs and services. We are committed to assuring equal access to programs, activities, and services to all individuals. If you or a family member needs assistance, please let us know when you register.

Classes

We reserve the right to limit class size and to cancel classes failing to meet minimum requirements. Vernon residents are given preference for all programs during the 1st week of registration.

Payment

Registration is not considered valid until the program fee is paid. We accept cash, check, MasterCard or Visa.

Refunds

Refunds are given only prior to the start of classes or if we cancel the program. Once an activity has started no refunds will be granted except in the case of injury, illness, or relocation. Refunds will then be given on a pro-rated basis and are under the discretion of the Parks and Recreation Director. Please note that there is a \$5.00 charge for refunds and transfers.

Inclement Weather

In the case of inclement weather, the Parks and Recreation Department reserves the right to cancel programs for the day. All decisions on programs will be made by 4:00 p.m. unless your program starts earlier. A decision will be made by 9:00 a.m. for weekend and morning programs. Please contact the Recreation Office at 860-870-3520. The Department will attempt to post any program cancellation information on 1080AM and WFSB Channel 3.

Scholarship Programs

It is our policy that residents of Vernon who cannot afford to participate in programs or activities can make confidential inquiries for assistance to Bruce Dinnie, Director of Parks and Recreation 860-870-3520.

Program Photos

We invite everyone to browse our photo collection of recent activities and programs. Our staff photographer, Andre Garant, strives to cover as many of our events as possible. All photos are available for sale to parents at low prices. For further details, please visit our photosite at www.flickr.com/photos/vernonpr.

Parks & Recreation

PRESCHOOL & YOUTH PROGRAMS

Dance Classes:

All classes are held at Center 375. Instructor Jessica and other Beyond Dance staff will be teaching the classes. Classes will run 4 weeks, July 20-August 15.

Dance Class Fee Structure Per Participant: \$35 for 1 session of 1 class style, \$30 for each additional class style during the same session (discount not applicable to on-line registrants). \$10 Drop in for 1 time classes during session. (No sibling discounts).

MONDAYS:

Preschool Combo (ages 3-4) 5:15-6pm
Hip Hop (ages 8-12) 6-6:45pm

TUESDAYS:

Open Tumbling (ages 5+) 5:30-6:30pm
Tap (ages 8+) 6:30-7:15pm
Hip Hop Teen (ages 13+) 7:15-8pm
Lyrical Teen (ages 12+) 8-9pm

WEDNESDAYS:

Dance Sampler (ages 5-7) 5-5:45pm
Jazz/Lyrical (ages 8-12) 5:45-6:30pm

Dance Camp

This camp is for children ages 7-12 yrs. Fun-filled, high energy camp with staff from Beyond Dance. The participants will enjoy dancing numerous styles to modern music, do Zumba®, create cool crafts, sing and more! In the afternoon, participants will go to Newhoca beach to swim. The last day of each session will include a Show for family and friends to see. Wear appropriate clothes and shoes to comfortably move around and dance in, bring a bathing suit, towel, lunch, snacks and plenty of water. The camp will be held at the Newhoca Lodge. Participants will be bused to Newhoca from Valley Falls Park. Please be on time for bus pick up/drop off.

Bus Pick Up, Valley Falls Parking Lot: 8:45am
Bus Drop Off, Valley Falls Parking Lot: 3:45pm
August 3-7 8:45am-3:45pm, Fee: \$120

Play Well PRE-ENGINEERING Camp

This camp is open to children ages 5-6 years old. Create, Play, and Learn. Build a town, city, or star base with houses, buildings, pyramids, bridges, tunnels, towers, and more. Build motorized cars, trains, buses, and trucks; race them; crash them; repair them. Explore the many possibilities of LEGO® building systems while learning useful con-

struction techniques.

Monday - Friday, August 17-21
9a.m. to 12p.m., Camp Newhoca
Fee: Residents: \$135/Non-Residents: \$140

Play Well FUNdamentals

This exciting program is for children ages 7-9 years old. Design and build motorized machines, catapults, pyramids, demolition derby cars, truss and suspension bridges, buildings, and other constructions. Explore concepts in physics, mechanical engineering, structural engineering, and architecture while playing with your favorite creations. This is a hands-on and minds-on class suitable for LEGO® building system novices to "maniacs."

Monday - Friday, August 17-21
1-4p.m., Camp Newhoca
Fee: Residents: \$135/Non-Residents: \$140

AQUATICS



Swim Lessons

Swim lessons are available at Horowitz and Community pools in the mornings and evenings. Lessons are held Monday-Thursday and consist of two weeks of 45-minute instruction. Fridays will be reserved for make-up lessons in the case that we need to cancel swim lessons. Swim lessons will not be canceled if it rains, but will be canceled in the case of thunder and lightning (please call ahead to see if classes will be canceled due to weather), and in the case that there is a home swim meet for the Vernon Gator Swim Team. Goggles are recommended for levels 2 & up. Fee: Resident: \$45/Non-Resident: \$55
Age is determined by how old the participant will be on the first day of the class.

Baby and me, 18 months - 3 years old
Intro to level 1, 3-4 years old
Levels 1-5/6, 5-14 years old

Session 1: June 22nd - July 3rd
Session 2: July 6th - July 17th
Session 3: July 20th - July 31st
Session 4: August 3rd - August 14th

Community Pool

Baby & Me: 5:00PM
Intro to Level 1: 11:20AM, 5:00PM, 5:50PM
Level 1: 11:20AM, 5:00PM, 5:50PM

Level 2: 11:20AM, 5:50PM

Horowitz Pool

Level 2: 10:30AM, 5:00PM
Level 3: 10:30AM, 11:20AM, 5:00PM
Level 4: 11:20AM, 5:00PM, 5:50PM
Level 5/6: 11:20AM, 5:50PM

Level Description

Baby & Me: Introduce your child to the water in this unstructured program. Staff is available to offer tips using activities, toys and songs. Participate with your baby in your grasp. One parent per child required. Swim diapers required.

Intro to Level 1: This class is for your beginning swimmer to prepare for Level 1. Basic introduction to breath control, basic floating and balance in the water, changing directions and rolling over, and using a personal flotation device (PFD) are covered.

Level 1: Swimmers learn water safety rules, safe water entry and exits, breath control, basic floating and balance in the water, changing directions and rolling over, and using a personal flotation device (PFD).

Level 2: Swimmers learn how to float and balance in the front, back and side positions, underwater movement and retrieval skills, water safety, and movement.

Level 3: Swimmers learn kicks used in all swim strokes, pulls used in side stroke and elementary back stroke, treading, rules for safe diving, HELP and Huddle positions with PFD, reaching assists.

Level 4: Swimmers learn underwater swimming, surface diving, pulls for competitive strokes, whole-stroke swimming of all strokes, and safe diving rules.

Level 5/6: Advanced Swimmers refine the Breast and Side Strokes and begin short lap swimming using the front and back crawl, flip turns, and surface dives and begin the Butterfly Stroke. Participants learn the skills needed to be on a competitive swim team.

Vernon Gators Swim Team

Join the Vernon Gators Swim Team! Make new friends and improve your technique while having fun under the sun. All swimmers must be proficient in one or more strokes and have the endurance to swim a full practice. The team season runs from June 22nd through early August. Practices will be weekday evenings Monday-Thursday with a weekly competition in the Central CT Swim League. All team members will receive an individual Vernon Aquatics pool pass for

the 2015 season and a Gators swim cap!
Non-residents: Please note that league policy states that you can only join another town's team if your town does not offer a team already in the league. Ellington residents ARE eligible to participate on the Vernon Gators. Fee: \$120

SUMMER DAY CAMP

SESSIONS (Newhoca, 375, Valley Falls, Henry Park, Kiddie Camp)

- Session 1: June 22-June 26
- Session 5: July 20-July 24
- Session 2: June 29-July 3
- Session 6: July 27-July 31
- Session 3: July 6-July 10
- Session 7: August 3-August 7
- Session 4: July 13-July 17
- Session 8: August 10-August 14

POST CAMP: August 17-21

Center 375 and Valley Falls Camp:

Fee: Residents: \$80/Non-Residents: \$85

Henry Park Camp:

Fee: Residents: \$65/Non-Residents: \$70

Camp Newhoca:

Fee: Residents: \$95/Non-Residents: \$100

Kiddie Camp:

Fee: Residents: \$80/Non-Residents: \$85

Extended A.M.:

Fee: Residents: \$20/Non-Residents: \$25

Extended P.M.:

Fee: Residents: \$30/Non-Residents: \$35

Post Camp:

Fee: Residents: \$110/Non-Residents: \$115

Late Fee: Late fees apply to those who are not picked up on-time. Fee is \$5 for the first 15 minutes, \$1 per minute there after.

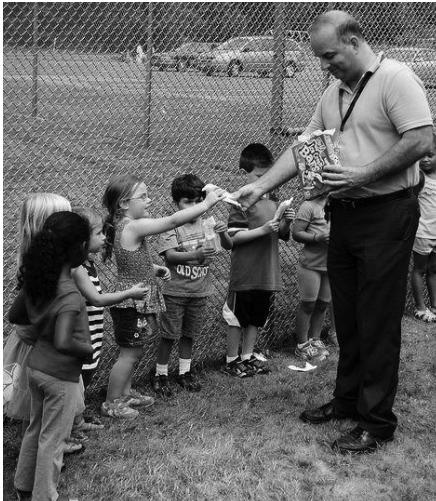
*NOTE: Campers MUST go to the camp that fits their age group. Age is calculated by the age you are by August 31, 2015.

Kiddie Camp



Kiddie Camp is held at Center 375 from 9:00am to 3:30pm and is for children ages 4-5 years old. Campers meet in the Fitness Room of Center 375 each day. This location

also features playing fields, playground and a kiddie pool only. Children do activities that focus on interaction with peers, have theme weeks, physical fitness, educational learning activities, arts and crafts, story time, movies and much more. Limit is 30 campers. Campers must be fully potty trained. Campers attending this camp ARE eligible to register for the Center 375 Extended Day program. No Bus transportation is provided. Photo ID is required to sign out your child.



Kiddie Camp Visit from Mayor Champagne

Center 375 Camp

This camp is held at the Center 375 from 9:00am to 3:30pm and is for children ages 6-12 years old. This location features a swimming pool, softball field for games, basketball court, playground, picnic area and an air conditioned indoor facility. Campers enjoy fun theme days, physical fitness, arts and crafts, open swim and much more! Limit is 70 campers. Campers attending this camp ARE eligible to register for the Center 375 Extended Day program. No Bus transportation is provided. Photo ID is required to sign out your child.

Valley Falls Nature Camp

This camp is held at Valley Falls Park from 9:00am to 3:30pm and is for children ages 6-12 years old. Campers meet at the Valley Falls Pavilion in the morning and are picked up there in the afternoon. In the event of inclement weather, campers are to go to the Valley Falls Barn. This camp features Nature with special explorations in the pond, learning about fishing, excursions on hiking trails, special guest presenters and much more! Along with fun nature explorations, campers will also enjoy fun camp games, arts & crafts, swim time, basketball court and much more! Limit is 40. Campers attending this camp

ARE eligible to register for the Valley Falls Extended Day program. No Bus transportation is provided. Photo ID is required to sign out your child.

Henry Park Camp

This camp is held at Henry Park from 8:30am to 4:00pm and is for children ages 6-15 years old. All Campers meet at the Pavilion in the morning and are picked up there in the afternoon. This location features a swimming pool, multiple baseball fields for games, basketball courts and a playground with a spray pool. A Free lunch program is offered at this site. In the event of inclement weather, campers will be bussed to one of the town's elementary schools. Limit is 70 campers. Campers are NOT eligible for the extended day program. No Bus transportation is provided. Please note this camp has longer camp hours. Photo ID is required to sign out your child. Campers 12-16 yrs old will be eligible to go on 2 trips each session. 1 trip will be free of charge, the 2nd trip will be an additional fee.

Camp Newhoca

This camp is located at Newhoca Park which is on Middle Bolton Lake and goes from 9:00am to 3:30pm. It is for campers ages 6-13 years old. This camp features swimming in the lake, canoes & paddle boats, basketball courts, hiking, field games, an arts & crafts instructor, exciting theme days and much more! This camp also has indoor facilities featuring an Arts and Crafts cabin, Game Room (with Foosball tables, Air Hockey, board games, etc), Rec Hall and an office. During sessions 3, 5 and 7, campers ages 10-13 are eligible to sign up for a sleepover at Camp Newhoca. Camp Newhoca is known for their exciting themes. A Nature Program is part of the camp too. Camp Newhoca will definitely provide fun times, good friends and happy memories! Limit 110 campers. Photo ID is required to sign out your child. Bus Transportation is ONLY provided from Valley Falls: Drop-Off 8:45am. Pick Up 3:45pm

Extended Day

This is an extension to the summer camp day that allows you to drop off your child as early as 7:30am and stay as late as 6:00pm in the evening. Campers needing Extended Day for Camp Newhoca and Valley Falls will be located at Valley Falls Park (in the event of inclement weather it is held at the Valley Falls Barn). Camp Newhoca campers will be

continued on page 14...

Parks & Recreation

continued from page 13...

bussed to Newhoca Park. Campers needing Extended Day for Center 375 and Kiddie Camp will be located at Center 375. Please note, this program is NOT available for Henry Park campers as transportation is NOT provided to site. Photo ID is required to sign out your child.

Post Camp

This program allows you to keep a normal schedule at the end of the summer. It is located at Center 375 and is for children ages 5-12 years old. A wide variety of camp activities are offered as well as swimming. Camp runs from 7:30am –6:00pm. Photo ID is required to sign out your child.

ADULT CLASSES

Zumba Fitness®

Are you ready to party yourself into shape? That's exactly what the Zumba® program is all about. It's an exhilarating, effective, easy-to-follow, Latin-inspired, calorie-burning dance fitness-party that's moving millions of people toward joy and health. The exercises include music with fast and slow rhythms, as well as resistance training.

Mondays in June, then continue August 17
(weeks in between will be the Land & Sea class)
7-8pm, Center 375 Gym

Fee: Drop In rate: \$6.00/class

Zumba Fitness® Land & Sea

Let's bring the fitness fun to the pool! What better way to exercise and cool off at the same time. The Zumba® music beats for dance exercise and integrated them in a water-based workout. Aqua Zumba® keeps the Zumba Fitness® workout party going in the pool. You perform large muscle movements by reaching your arms and lifting your legs in the water, as well as circling your hips and shoulders. In the event of inclement weather, this class will resume in the Center 375 gym as a Zumba Fitness® class.

Mondays, July 6-Aug 10
7-8pm, Community Pool (375 Hartford Tpke)
Fee: Drop In rate: \$6.00/class

Blast

Blast is a fat shredding, muscle toning, personalized group exercise class in which people of every fitness level alternate between cardio and strength training.

Wednesdays
6:30-7:15pm, Center 375
Dance Room
Drop in rate: \$6.00/class

Zumba® Toning

Cardio fusion incorporates cutting edge research and fitness techniques to burn maximum calories, build lean muscles, and increase stamina. Full body workout, strengthens core, burns and tones.

Wednesdays, 7:15-8:15pm, Center 375 Gym
Fee: Drop in rate: \$6.00/class

Piloxing

PILOXING® cardio fusion incorporates cutting edge research and fitness techniques to burn maximum calories, build lean muscles, and increase stamina. The program uniquely blends the power, speed, and agility of boxing with the targeted sculpting and flexibility of pilates. These techniques are also supplemented by the use of weighted gloves, further toning the arms and maximizing cardiovascular health. Add to that exhilarating dance moves and you have a muscle-toning, fat-burning workout that will make you feel physically and mentally empowered!

Saturdays, 9-10am, Center 375 Dance Room
Fee: Drop In rate: \$6.00/class

Community Gardens

Located at Vernon Center Middle School, individuals can rent a 25x25 garden plot for their personal gardening needs. Each plot cost \$20 (\$15 for seniors) and ready for planting now.

Adult Fall Softball

The adult fall softball program will start after Labor Day. Men's teams and coed teams will play on set nights during the season at Henry Park and Community Field. The entrance fee is \$570 and the deadline is August 19.

SUMMER CARNIVAL

Vernon Summer Days Carnival

The 6th annual Vernon Summer Days Carnival will be held July 22-25 at Connecticut Golf Land in Vernon. Hours are Wednesday through Friday 6-10PM, and Saturday 5-10PM. All rides are unlimited with the purchase of a nightly wrist band. Individual ride tickets are also available. Along with the rides there are games and a food court. The Sponsors are the Rockville Exchange Club, the Maple Grove Club and Vernon Parks & Rec. The Carnival benefits charitable programs such as Kids Safe and the Town of Vernon summer camperships. Parking and admission to the Carnival are free. For further information or questions, or to volunteer, call Steve Wakefield, event Chairman, at 860-573-6544, or Steve Krajewski, Vernon Parks and Rec at 860-870-3520.

New 2015-2016 Before School Program

Vernon Morning Club – for ALL elementary school students

Program held at Center 375

Based on the high number of requests we have received from Vernon families, we are happy to offer a before school care program for the 2015-16 school year. Morning care is available for children who attend Center Road School, Lake Street School, Maple Street School, Northeast School and Skinner Road School in grades K-5. The program will be held at the Center 375, beginning at 6:30 a.m. Children will then be bused to their respective schools for the start of the school day. This program offers a supervised environment for your child to socialize and play before school. Our goal is to start your child's day in a positive way so they head off to school ready to focus and learn! Please note that for the safety of your family and our staff members, this program will NOT run if there is a delayed opening for the Vernon School System.

Children will play quiet recreation activities such as board games, puzzles, reading, and group games allowing your child to have some relaxed, low-key fun before the start of the school day. If the weather is particularly nice, we may head outside for some fresh air as well. Arts & craft projects will be done for children to explore their creativity, both through structured projects and free creative time. Participants are welcome to bring a prepared breakfast to eat.

FEE: The fee for the 2015-16 school year is \$10 per morning. The first month's payment is due in full at the time of registration. Further payments are due on the 15th of each month and may be made online, by mail, at the site or the Parks & Recreation office. Late payments will incur a fee of \$8.00 per month.

2015-2016 AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

The Vernon Parks & Recreation Department is pleased to offer programs to meet the needs of Vernon families. Our goal is to make our high-quality programs convenient and affordable while providing your child with a safe, well-rounded experience with opportunities to play, socialize, learn, and create. We offer a 1:10 staff to child ratio, and all sites have staff members that are certified in CPR & First Aid. We work closely

with families to ensure our programs are meeting your expectations, and encourage family and community involvement.

R.E.K.

Recreation and Education for Kids
Center Rd School, Skinner Rd School, Maple Str. School & Northeast School

Our long-running R.E.K. program offers after school care for children in grades K-5 at Center Road School, Skinner Road School, Maple Street School, and Northeast School. We have partnered with the elementary schools to conveniently offer care on site at Center Road School, Northeast School, and Skinner Road School. Maple Street students are bused to Skinner Road at the end of the school day. Our programs have access to school facilities such as the cafeteria, gymnasium, athletic fields, blacktop, and playscape. We offer a variety of activities to meet the recreational and educational needs of your children, with a focus on building positive relationships with peers and staff members. R.E.K. will run from the end of the school day until 6:00 p.m. and is held every day that school is held, including scheduled half days and early dismissal days.

Daily Activities

- **Homework/Quiet Activities**- Children may use this time to work on homework, read, or engage in other activities such as puzzles and quiet games. Books are available at each site but your child is encouraged to bring a favorite book from home to read if they would like. Staff will be available for homework assistance as needed.
- **Recreation**- Children will have plenty of time for active recreation each day. Outdoor time on the school's playscape and athletic fields will be offered whenever weather permits, and in the case of inclement weather the school gym will be used. Recreation time will include a combination of structured games, team sports, and free play to allow your child to get moving and have fun!
- **Arts & Crafts**- A variety of arts & crafts activities will be offered to allow the children to explore their creativity, both through structured projects and free creative time.
- **Snack**- A healthy snack will be provided each day, with special consideration given for allergies or food restrictions.
- **Enrichment Activities**- We are proud to partner with community organizations to periodically bring a variety of additional enrichment activities to our R.E.K. programs

FEE: The fee for the 2015-16 school year is

\$13.50 per regular day, and \$19.50 per early dismissal day. The first month's payment is due in full at the time of registration.

Further payments are due on the 15th of each month and may be made online, by mail, and at your site or the Parks & Recreation office. Late payments will incur a fee of \$8.00 per month. To see if you may qualify for financial assistance contact Care 4 Kids at 1-888-214-KIDS or www.ctcare4kids.com.

Lake Street After-School Club

We are happy to announce that we are now offering an after school care program for Lake Street School students. This program is for Lake Street School students in grades K-5 and is held at the Center 375. At the end of the school day children will be bused from the school to 375 Hartford Turnpike where they will be met by our staff members to begin their fun-filled afternoon. Center 375 includes large activity rooms, athletic fields, and other outdoor play areas for your children to enjoy. This program runs from the end of the school day until 6:00 p.m. and will be held every day that there is school, including scheduled half days and early dismissal days. Children will have time for homework, snack and recreational activities.

FEE: The fee for the 2015-16 school year is \$10.50 per regular day, and \$16.50 per early dismissal day. The first month's payment is due in full at the time of registration. Further payments are due on the 15th of each month and may be made online, by mail, and at your site or the Parks & Recreation office. Late payments will incur a fee of \$8.00 per month. To see if you may qualify for financial assistance contact Care 4 Kids at 1-888-214-KIDS or www.ctcare4kids.com.

VACATION CAMPS

No school? No worries! We also offer day camps during school vacations and professional development days. This program is held at the Teen Center at Center 375 (375 Hartford Turnpike) and offers a variety of activities throughout the day to help your child fit a lot of fun into their days off. The fee for vacation camp is \$30 per day for Vernon residents and \$35 per day for non-residents. Payment is due in full at the time of registration. Registration forms can be found at the Parks & Recreation office, and are also sent out through your child's school prior to vacations. You may also register online (please note if you register online you will also be asked to complete a

registration form with emergency contacts and pertinent medical information when you drop your child off at camp).

FACILITY RENTALS

Pool Parties, Reunions, Birthday Parties, Weddings, Showers, Gatherings, Meetings
PARKS & REC HAS THE PLACE TO HAVE IT!

Pool parties

Make a big splash at your next party. Community Pool and Horowitz Pool is now available for pool parties. Pool parties are available on Saturdays and Sundays from 10am-12pm or 6-8pm. Fee: \$200.00.

Newhoca Lodge Rental

Newhoca Lodge is set on a gorgeous camp ground on Middle Bolton Lake. This is the perfect spot to hold a family reunion, baby shower, birthday party and much more. Rental includes: 65 folding chairs, 9 round tables, 5 - 8' rectangle tables.

Kitchen Amenities: oven, microwave, refrigerator/freezer, sink

Fee: Residents \$50/hr / Non-Residents \$60/hr

Pavilion Rentals

NEW Henry Park Russell G. Hartmann Pavilion

The Russell G. Hartmann Pavilion is located at Henry Park, 120 South Street. The pavilion is 40 feet by 60 feet. This is the perfect spot to hold a family reunion, baby shower, birthday party and much more. Fee: Residents \$35/hr / Non-Residents \$40/hr

Newhoca Park Pavilion: Located on Grier Road, Newhoca Park. Site offers basketball hoops, fire pit, open field and volleyball court.

Large pavilion (40'x60') that is great for all occasions, can hold up to 100 people with picnic tables & charcoal grills.

Fee: Residents \$35/hr / Non-Residents \$40/hr

Small hexagon pavilion (20'). Can hold up to 15 people.

Fee: Residents \$20/hr / Non-Residents \$25/hr

Valley Falls Park Pavilion: Located on Valley Falls Road. Site offers beach, picnic tables, charcoal grills, open field, trails. Fees vary by rental time and size of group. Please call for details.

continued on page 16...

Parks & Recreation

continued from page 15

Picnic Rentals

The Town's picnic groves are available for rent. Picnic groves are located at the following locations:

Valley Falls Park: Located on Valley Falls Road, Valley Falls Park contains picnic areas out in the field. Fees vary by rental time.

Henry Park: Located at 120 South Street, Henry Park has two picnic grove areas and three picnic sites.

Fee: Residents \$20 / Non-Residents \$25

*Additional fees may apply for parties of 35 guest or more.

Free Picnic Areas

(these do NOT need to be reserved, first come, first serve)

Fox Hill Tower-Free, Church St. Rails to Trails-Free, Dart Hill

Park-Free Walker's Reservoir-Free, Saxony Mill Park-Free, Dart Hill North- Free, Phoenix Street Dam-Free

Teen Center Rentals

The Teen Center is the perfect place to have a meeting, birthday party, shower or family gathering. Rooms available to reserve are:

Big Community Room:

Holds up to 75 people

Booth style seating

Four 6' tables

available upon request

60 folding chairs

available upon request

Pool table, foosball table &

air hockey table

Food allowed

Fee: Residents \$35/Non \$40

Fees are PER HOUR. After 2 hours, additional time may be added in half hour increments if desired. Your reservation must include set-up and clean up time. Renters are responsible for cleaning up.

Gymnasium:

Holds up to 300 people

(Holds up to 175 with tables)

2 Basketball hoops

No food allowed

Fee: Residents \$50/Non \$55

The Town of Vernon is acting upon this upsetting statistic and has created the "Save A Life" Program, which is intended to send children to swim lessons for free. A \$45 donation can send a child through 8 classes of swim lessons. Become a hero and SAVE A LIFE today.

Fireworks Sponsorship

The annual fireworks will be held on Wednesday, July 1, 2015 (Rain date: July 2, 2015). The Parks and Recreation Department is accepting donations from individuals and businesses for this event. For details, contact the office at 860-870-3520.

Sponsorship Opportunities

Any business interested in having a 4x8 sign displayed, year round at the Henry Park softball field are asked to contact the P&R office regarding details. Henry Park has over 200,000 participants that use the Park. There are numerous special events that take place in the Park. There isn't a more visible place in Vernon, take advantage of this opportunity.

Volunteer Recognition Awards

On April 21 the following individuals were recognized for their volunteer work for the Town of Vernon Parks & Recreation Department.

William O'Neill, received the Outstanding Individual Award for this leadership to establish the Vernon Rails to Trails and the East Coast Greenway.

Joseph Rispoli, received the Outstanding Volunteer Coach Award for his dedication in coaching the youth of Vernon the game of baseball and basketball.

Beni's Restaurant, received the Outstanding Organization Award for their community support sponsoring softball teams and the Title sponsor of the Mother's Day Dash.



Amy Watt, Recreation Supervisor; Steve Krajewski, Asst Director Parks and Recreation; Joseph Rispoli, Outstanding Volunteer Coach; William O'Neill, Outstanding Individual and Bruce Dinnie, Director Parks and Recreation. (Steve Krajewski accepted the award for Beni's Restaurant, Outstanding Organization.)

Save a life

The Vernon Parks and Recreation Department is kicking off our "Save A Life" campaign. Nationally, drowning remains the second-leading cause of accidental death among children, according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. An estimated 300 children under the age of five drown in swimming pools and spas every year, and more than 4,200 kids 15 and younger visit hospital emergency rooms because of non-fatal submersion injuries, including those that result in permanent brain damage.

Disc Golf - Ecker Hill



Disc Golf Ribbon Cutting with Mayor Champagne

On October 9th, 2014 Mayor Daniel Champagne cut the ribbon and the new Ecker Hill Disc Golf Course was officially opened. The course is located on the former Ecker property behind Community Gardens by Vernon Center Middle School.

The course was designed by Disc Golfers Jason Bayer and Clayton Davidson. The course was built by Town staff and disc golf volunteers organized by Jason Bayer and Clayton Davidson. There is no fee and it is open 7 days a week, Tee sponsors for \$200 for two years are being sought.

Brief History of Disc Golf

So, who first played disc golf? This turns out to be impossible to answer. There are many historical accounts of people playing

golf with a flying disc, some of which pre-date the advent of the plastic flying discs by many years. Each account was an isolated instance of recreational disc golf play, and none of the participants knew of anyone else playing disc golf. Indeed, most of these instances were isolated not only geographically, but in time also, so they couldn't have known about each other.

What is Disc Golf?

Disc golf is played much like traditional golf. Instead of a ball and clubs, however, players use a flying disc, or Frisbee. The sport was formalized in the 1970's, and shares with "ball golf" the object of completing each hole in the fewest strokes (or, in the case of disc golf, fewest throws). A disc golf is thrown from a tee area to a target which is the "hole". The hole can be one of a number of disc golf targets; the most common is called a Pole Hole an elevated metal basket. As a player progresses down the fairway, he or she must make each consecutive throw from the spot where the previous throw has landed. The trees, shrubs, and terrain changes located in and around the fairways provide challenging obstacles for the golfer. Finally, the "putt" lands in the basket

and the hole is complete. It is designed to be enjoyed by people of all ages, male and female, regardless of economic status.

Why should I play?

The ongoing fitness boom finds more and more people taking up recreational activities in an effort to improve health and quality of life. Disc golf provides upper and lower body conditioning, aerobic exercise, and promotes a combination of physical and mental abilities that allow very little risk of physical injury.



Practice Shots

Summer Days Carnival

The seventh annual Vernon Summer Days Carnival will be held July 22nd through July 25th at Connecticut Golf Land in Vernon. Hours are Wednesday through Friday 6PM to 10PM, and Saturday 5PM to 10PM. All rides are unlimited with the purchase of a nightly wrist band. Individual ride tickets are also available. Along with the rides there are games and a food court. The Sponsors are the Rockville Exchange Club, the Maple Grove Club and Vernon Parks and Rec. The Carnival benefits charitable programs such as Kids Safe and the Town of Vernon summer camperships. Parking and admission to the Carnival are free. The Carnival is pleased to announce our new Patron Sponsor, the Angelic Nursing & Home Care Registry of Manchester.

For further information or questions, or to volunteer, call Steve Wakefield, event Chairman, at 860-573-6544, or Steve Krajewski, Vernon Parks and Recreation at 860-870-3520.

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I Want YOU for the...

You can participate in the Fourth of July festivities on July 1st by entering the Push, Pull, Pedal Patriotic Parade, affectionately known as the "PPPPP." This colorful parade will once again be part of the downtown Rockville celebration of July in the Sky. People of all ages are invited to join in - on bikes and trikes, in wagons, on skates and skateboards (but only for the parade) -- even on foot, if need be! Participants decorate these "vehicles" in red, white and blue -- there is no right or wrong way -- the sky is the limit! For those who are extremely patriotic, don't forget to look the part by dressing up! There will be judging for each category and prizes will be handed out.

To save time, it is best to arrive with decorating in place, but for those who need a little something "extra" there will be volunteers ready to help with crepe paper and other colorful decorations.. A special crew will be ready to help with the decorating and organizing of this parade. Decorating and line up start at 6:15 pm in front of Bank of America. Judging will be at 7:15 pm and the parade will start at 7:35 pm. The route is Union Street to Central Park and Elm Street and then back.

Uncle Sam will be there to greet one and all and will be available after the parade for photos.

Attention All Vernon Homeowners!

Town Of Vernon's Housing Rehab Program

The Town of Vernon is currently accepting applications for the Small Cities Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program. The Program provides financial assistance for repairs to residential properties located in Vernon. Properties must be owner occupied and households must meet the income limits.

Owner occupied properties are eligible for 0% interest, deferred payment loans. All properties are subject to applicable guidelines and certain equity requirements.

Repairs include but are not limited to roofing, siding, door and window replacement, plumbing, heating, weatherization, electrical upgrades, well and septic.

Eligibility is based on gross household income. Income limits for year 2015 are as follows:

1 person	\$46,100
2 person	\$52,650
3 person	\$59,250
4 person	\$65,800
5 person	\$71,100

For more information and to receive an application please contact:
Vernon Social Services, Town Hall, 14 Park Place Vernon, CT
Phone: 860-870-3661, Fax: 860-870-3564
www.vernon-ct.gov/social-services

Come To Downtown Rockville For Fun & Food – Stay For Entertainment & Fireworks!

Come early – pick out a viewing place to put your blanket and/or chairs – Downtown Rockville offers a fantastic viewing sight for the fireworks. When the lights go out you know that a spectacular show is about to begin. Be sure to stay around until the grand finale – which is always spectacular! Games and activities will end just before the fireworks begin, but food vendors will probably stay open for your dining pleasure.

Some Of The Foods Available:

Hot dogs and hamburgers * popcorn * cotton candy * grilled cheese sandwiches * fried dough * BBQ ribs * Jamaican meat pockets * pizza * novelty ice cream * soda * water * iced coffee

NOTE: Before leaving for the night, please be courteous and help us to clean up the downtown area by disposing of your trash and recycling items properly.

19 Grove Street

Big changes are in store for the entrance to downtown Rockville. Over the next few weeks, residents and passersby may notice that 19 Grove Street, a 3.15-acre site located across the street from the Amerbelle Mill will be undergoing an eco-friendly transformation.

Through the assistance of federal and state authorities, contaminated debris, household waste, and vegetation will be cleared from the site. The activity is expected to conclude by summer's end and when done, should reveal open views of the site and of Paper Mill Pond, which sit at the entrance to Rockville's Historic District.

The timing of this project works in conjunction with the town's ongoing efforts to remediate the historic Amerbelle Mill in preparation for the relocation of 1st Alliance Lending's headquarters from East Hartford to town. When both projects are completed, the activities will leave nearly 8.5 acres of land at the intersection of routes 74 & 31 cleaner and greener. Now that's sustainable living!



VERNON TOWN DEPARTMENT D I R E C T O R Y

Administration	860-870-3670
Assessor	860-870-3625
Animal Control	860-870-3558
Building Department	860-870-3633
Cemetery Office	860-875-3158
Collector of Revenue	860-870-3660
Data Processing	860-870-3646
Economic Development	860-870-3637
Emergency Services	860-871-3142
Employment Opportunities	860-870-3605
Engineering	860-870-3664
Finance	860-870-3690
Fire Department	860-871-7468
Fire Marshal	860-870-3652
Health Department	860-872-1501
Library	860-875-5892
Parks and Recreation	860-870-3520
Planning and Development	860-870-3640
Police Department	860-872-9126
Public Works	860-870-3500
Senior Center	860-870-3680
Sewer Treatment Plant	860-870-3545
Social Services	860-870-3661
Town Clerk	860-870-3662
Water Pollution Control	860-870-3699
Youth Services Bureau	860-870-3555
Zoning Administration	860-870-3636

Vernon Greenways Volunteers

Did you know there are 36 miles of trails in Vernon? And that the town is responsible for maintaining 20 of those miles? We were formed to assist the town in the maintenance, enhancement and proper use of those trails.

We're a 65 member group in our 11th year of existence. We're self funded by 23 financial sponsors that donated \$5,000 in 2014 and we contributed 968 volunteer hours in a five month period (May to October).

We refer to ourselves as a Trail Service Group rather than a Trail Maintenance Group because we do things that might surprise you:

- Eight formal plantings on the Rail Trail are maintained by our Planting Adopters.
- An annual check for infestations of the emerald ash borer and Asian longhorned beetle is conducted on the Rail Trail.
- In three of the last five years we hosted an outing for Board of Education School for the Blind middle school children at Valley Falls Park.
- In 2014 we initiated two wild flower plantings on the Rail Trail.
- We purchased and maintained on-site 6,000 trail maps in seven dispensers and 18,000 dog litter bags in six dispensers in 2014.
- In 2015 we will assist in the construction of a 2,500 square foot mural on the Rail Trail.
- In 2015 a bridge in Dart Hill South Park will be repaired.

We, also, do more traditional maintenance items:

A Trail Maintenance Team assists the town in fighting erosion.

A Weed Whacking Team helps keep the hiking trails open. Eleven Trail Managers/Monitors each take ownership of a trail segment.

Ad hoc projects such as clearing overlooks, trail heads and the Braille Trail.

To learn more or become a member visit Vernongreenways.org or contact Don Bellingham at Vernongreenways@att.net. Member Vernon Volunteers' Collaborative.



*Preparing the planting at Phoenix Street.
Photographer: Don Bellingham*

Friends Of Valley Falls

The Friends of Valley Falls, Inc. is a private non-profit 501(c) (3) organization. Organized in 1972, the Friends purpose is to promote the betterment of Valley Falls Park, and to be responsible owners of Valley Falls Farm. We carry out this mission through careful stewardship of their lands, conservation of their resources and outreach to the community.

Members purchased Valley Falls Farm in 2001 from the Darico family who had owned the property since 1958. The farm was originally part of the 300-acre estate owned in the 1900's by Charles Coffing Beach and Mary Batterson Beach, daughter of the Founder of Travelers Insurance Company.

The property contains the former Beach estate caretaker's home. Though no longer an operating farm, today it remains intact as a fine example of a turn-of-the century Gentleman's Farm which produced meats and vegetables for the Beach family. Plans are to open a Heritage Center in the Farm's stable in the Fall of 2015 to provide

displays and interpretive material of five historic sites in the Valley Falls Area.

Recognized as one of the most scenic landscapes in the area, the buildings and meadows are being preserved in their

present state. The 8 1/2 acres of land incorporates six small farm buildings: a stable, ice house, wood shed, cold cellar, piggery and manure shed. In pursuit of our mission to provide nature education, we offer walks to observe birds, wildflowers, mushrooms and to learn the geology of Valley Falls Park. Beginning in July, tours of the Farm will be given Wednesdays from 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. through August.



Valley Falls Farm stable and caretaker's house.

Photographer: Jon Roe

Our fourth Artists' Day (*Plein Air* Painting) will be held Sunday, August 23rd. Artists will display their work in the Red Barn in Valley Falls Park. The public is invited to visit the artists as they work outdoors.

Learn more at FriendsOfValleyFalls.org. Member Vernon Volunteers Collaborative.

Tax Collector

Connecticut towns and cities are required to operate on the Uniform Fiscal Year, commencing July 1 and ending the following June 30. Municipalities collect real estate, personal property, and motor vehicle taxes to fund the fiscal year budget. These taxes become due and payable July 1st, 2015. For the Town Of Vernon real estate and personal property tax bills over \$100.00 may be paid in two installments; motor vehicle taxes are due in full in July.

The local municipal budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2016 was adopted at the Annual Town Meeting following a vote by qualified voters of the Town of Vernon, and the mil rate of 36.91 was set at a Town Council meeting held on April 28th, 2015. The mil rate is based on a calculation of how much money is needed to fund the municipal budget and how

much property is available to be taxed as of the assessment date (grand list date) of October 1, 2014.

State statutes dictate the procedures to be followed for the billing and collection of taxes and the record keeping involved. Statutes are strictly construed, with a town's authority existing only if specifically granted by state statute.

The state statutes provide various means of collection enforcement that may be used by municipal tax collectors for delinquent property tax collections. Past due real estate taxes will be collected through a tax sale to be held this coming August. Motor vehicle, personal property, or business property delinquent collections will be enforced by a state marshal or collection agency. One of the most compelling tools of collection is the statutory interest rate of 18% per

year, which is charged on all delinquent taxes. This charge is meant to be a penalty for late payment. Delinquent motor vehicle tax payments requiring a State of Connecticut DMV clearance require payment in cash or money order (do not pay online if you require DMV clearance).

Payments can be made online at www.vernon-ct.gov by visiting the Department of Collector of Revenue, or selecting any "BILL PAY" tab from the home page. Payments can be made in person at 8 Park Place Monday-Wednesday 8:30-4:30, Thursday 8:30-7:00, and Friday 8:30-1:00. Payments may be mailed to PO Box 387 Vernon CT 06066. Receipts will be returned to those who include a self-addressed stamped envelope. The last day to pay without penalty is Monday August 3rd 2015.

Vernon Garden Club

Do you love to see what you can grow? Get your hands in the soil, hear about new gardening techniques and plants, enjoy talking with fellow gardeners about your successes and challenges?

The Vernon Garden Club is dedicated to the promotion of horticulture, protection of native trees and wildflowers, and promotion of community spirit, beautification and betterment in Vernon.

We held our first meeting of 18 enthusiastic gardeners in April 2000. Committees formed and got busy. By year's end membership had increased to 63 thanks to renewed friendships, stimulating meetings and good publicity.

As we grew our gardeners enjoyed visiting local gardens, taking field trips to regional 'garden' events, and establishing an herb garden at Valley Falls Farm.

Our second anniversary was celebrated by the unveiling of the 'Welcome to Vernon' sign at Vernon Circle surrounded by our signature perennial garden. A second public garden, designed by club members and The Garden Barn, is located at Lafayette Square near I-84 Exit 67 and is maintained and seasonally enhanced by the club. We are very proud of our public gardens.



Our projects include:

- A well attended plant sale on the Saturday before Mothers' Day, our chief fundraiser.
- Five successful tours of private gardens in the area.
- A 'Jr Gardeners' after school program at Lake Street School each spring where third graders plant and maintain a butterfly garden with help from club members.
- An annual scholarship of \$750 to a graduating high school senior pursuing a career in horticulture or a related field.
- Free programs on the third Monday of the month, September through June, at Rockville United Methodist Church, 142 Grove Street, Vernon.

If you love to garden and would like to learn more please join us at our next meeting, or visit our website: VernonGarden-Club.org. Member Vernon Volunteers Collaborative.

*Annual scholarship presentation at Vernon Circle Gateway Garden.
Photographer: Jean Hopkins*

The Vernon Youth Services Bureau

The YSB is a Town Of Vernon department that provides prevention and intervention programs, coordinates services to youth and refers youth and families to needed services. The YSB has been providing these services for well over 35 years.

Mission Statement: The Vernon Youth Services Bureau is a Town of Vernon Department dedicated to providing:

- Program Coordination
- Information and Referral
- Prevention Services
- Early Intervention Services
- Resource Development
- Community Involvement
- Youth Advocacy

You can find a copy of our brochure at: www.veron-ct.gov/youthservices . In this issue, I'll highlight some of our 2015 summer programs:

- Summer Youth Employment: the YSB partners with Capital Workforce Partners to offer jobs for income eligible youth ages 16-21. Youth hired for the summer

employment program work for 20 hours/week for six weeks between July and August. For more information, contact Kim McTighe, Prevention Program Specialist at Kimberly.mctighe@vernonct.org

- The Summer Fun Program offers fun programs for 20 youth in grades 1-5 and runs for six-weeks from July-August. Our focus this summer is nutrition, exercise, reading and plenty of time for play. There are two 3-week sessions, \$80/session/youth. For more information contact: Oz Ramos, Youth Counselor: oramos@vernon-ct.gov .
- The YSB provides free lunches to any youth 18 years and younger at four lunch sites. Lunches are served from 11:45am-12:30pm. This is a federally funded program and our partners are: State Department of Education, Vernon Parks and Recreation, Park West Apartments and Vernon Public Schools. For more information contact: Alan Slobodien, Director, aslobodien@vernon-ct.gov. For information about any of our programs, call 860-870-3555.

Vernon Volunteers' Collaborative

What's Happening This Summer? (And How To Find Out)

Vernon Volunteers' Collaborative (VVC) is a group of 12 Vernon nonprofit organizations making Vernon a special place to live and work through:

- Preservation or beautification of Vernon's open space, parks and environment.
- Preserving and sharing Vernon's history and historic properties.
- Encouraging appreciation of and participation in the arts.

Throughout the year, and particularly during the summer and fall seasons, there are many scheduled activities including hikes, lectures, art shows, music and fairs.

How can you learn about upcoming events? They are promoted in the

Reminder News and Journal Inquirer, with their own mailing lists and we maintain a listing on our website. But in each case you have to seek out the information. Is there another way to stay up-to-date?

To make it easier for you VVC has created an online MeetUp Group - Making Vernon Special - that notifies you by email when an event is posted and reminds you as the date approaches.

A MeetUp Group is a local community of people hosting MeetUps that happen in real life between members and Organizers. They help you find others who share your interests and in our case find out what is happening locally.

A MeetUp is free and easy to use. Over the past year VVC has posted over 50 events. By visiting our MeetUp page you can get an idea of what events we post and what kind of things are happening locally. Once you've joined you will find hundreds of other regional groups to explore.

To learn what is planned for the summer in Vernon visit our VernonVolunteers.org website and click on the 'Vernon Events' tab. This will lead you to our MeetUp group and, if you choose to join, you will find out what's happening this summer.

Vernon is 'On The Move.' Come join us this summer.

Is Your Smartphone Killing You?

Remember when your parents would always yell at you to "sit up straight." Or see if you can "walk with an apple on your head without dropping it?" It may have seemed like a hassle but they were helping us to develop good posture.

Most adults and children sit, looking down, at their I-phones, I-pads and video games in their laps. We spend two-four hours a day on our devices on average. Our heads weigh 10-12 pounds. Gravity, plus poor sitting posture, leads to an increased gravitational pull on your neck of about 60 pounds. That is four adult sized bowling balls, six bags of groceries, or an eight year old child sitting right on top of your head!

Children suffer most. Kids under age 18 spend the most time on their devices texting. As many as 2800 text per month are being reported! Neck and low back pain are developing as a result of this bad posture and has been termed "text neck". This means that their spines, which are still developing, are in serious jeopardy for pain. If left untreated, "text neck" can lead to severe health problems such as heart and lung disorders.

Having a Doctor of Chiropractic X-ray your family's spine is the first step in determining if you are suffering from the effects of "text neck". So limit yours and your kids' screen times and get them to practice that "apple balancing walk" instead!

Dr. April Little, LifeForce Chiropractic

Town Clerk's Office Reminders

June is the month to license your dog(s). We will need the current RABIES CERTIFICATE and the doctor's notice of SPAYING/NEUTERING to indicate that the animal is altered, if applicable.

The dog license fee during the month of June is \$8.00 if the dog is ALTERED and \$19.00, if not. However, beginning July 1st a late fee of \$1.00 per month will be charged, per state law. Please inform us if you no longer have your dog. Licenses can be mailed to you, if the certificates mentioned above along with a self-addressed stamped envelope and payment, by check, are mailed to the Town Clerk at 14 Park Place, Vernon, CT 06066.

Also, the municipal election will be held on November 3, 2015. If you plan to be away on that day, you may apply for an absentee ballot beginning in August at the Town Clerk's office or by downloading the application from the Secretary of the State website at www.sots.gov/sots. Click on Elections & Voting. Then you must send the completed application to the Town Clerk's Office. The Town Clerk's Office will begin mailing the ballots October 2, 2015.



Rockville Farmers Market

The fourth season of the Rockville Farmers Market began on Thursday May 28th and runs from 10 am to 1 pm every Thursday until the middle of October in the parking lot of Courthouse Plaza on West Main Street in Rockville (across from town hall). The market is sponsored and run by the Rockville Downtown Association (RDA).

A host of different vendors and food items, along with entertainment and demonstrations, will be featured every week. Locally grown fruits and vegetables are the main offerings, but homemade baked goods, kettle corn, plants, honey, eggs, cheeses, soy candles and jewelry will also be available.

The market is usually held rain or shine, under the direction of Market Master, Dan Waskiewicz, owner of Crystal Blueprint and Stationery



Rockville Downtown Celebration

Who doesn't love fire trucks? Or obstacle courses, or bounce houses? That's just a sampling of things for kids to do at the downtown celebration on July 1st. Four bounce houses, a climbing wall, carnival-type games, cotton candy, fried doughand more.... will be available from 6:00 pm until the fireworks show on July 1st. The downtown area will be transformed into a giant carnival, with games, demonstrations, music, food galore and a parade. Most of the vendors will be local businesses and/or groups.

The Rockville Community Alliance is partnering with the Town of Vernon and the Vernon Parks & Recreational Department to present all the pre-fireworks fun and activities. Fireworks sponsored by the Town of Vernon. For more information, please go to: www.rockvillecommunityalliance.org

**Looking for something different?
Downtown Rockville to offer two contests:**

Shoop, Shoop – Hula-Hoop!

There will be a hula-hoop contest -- there are no prizes for this event – just bragging rights! This event will be open to both children and adults (anyone brave enough, that is!). Good exercise after all the "good eatin" that will be available at the festival!

Foodies – Eat Your Heart Out !!

The Rockville Community Alliance (RCA) is once again sponsoring a watermelon contest at the downtown celebration on July 1st.

The "Third Annual Watermelon-Eating Contest" will be open to kids of all ages (8-12; 13-16; 17-20; 21-30; over 30). All age groups are given a quarter of a watermelon in 2 pieces – the fastest time wins (contents must remain in contestant in order to qualify as a "win"). A maximum of 2 minutes will be given – if no one finishes all the watermelon in that time, the person who has eaten the most will be the winner. Judges' ruling will be final.

Contestants are known as "Melon Heads" and everyone will receive a certificate attesting to the fact that they competed. There will be prizes for each age group – look for more information at the RCA table which can be found in front of the Senior Center on Park Place.

We are looking for Food Vendors and Crafters to participate in the Downtown Rockville venue....contact Tom DiDio at: thomas.didio@snet.net – come be part of the fun!



TOWN AND COUNTRY VETERINARY ASSOCIATES

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Vernon, CT 06066
860.645.1700**

**Gayle A. Block, D.V.M., M.S.
Lisa DeRosa, D.V.M.
Theresa Lamontagne, D.V.M.**



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July in the Sky



70 Years Of Lighting Up The Skies

Thanks to this year's Event Sponsors, Price Chopper and United Bank Foundation. Their community involvement and support is greatly appreciated. Come join the fun in our bigger and better Superior Energy "Fun Zone" located on McCoy Field. This is where you can get all varieties of delicious food and refreshing drinks. While at the Fun Zone purchase one of our many glow toys.

It takes a great team to create this great event! Thanks to Vernon Park and Recreation Department, The Vernon Police Department, The Vernon Fire Department, the office of The Fire Marshal and The Vernon Public Works Department. McDonald's sponsors the barbecue for sponsors and helpers. Hidden Dragon, The Rockville Community Alliance. The citizens of Vernon should be very proud of the efforts of the city departments involved and the local businesses.

Fireworks Shot Off At Fox Hill Tower In Henry Park



Wednesday, July 1 @ approx. 9:40 p.m.

Rain Date Thursday, July 2

Enjoy The New & Improved Fun Zone

This year at the July in the Sky Fireworks we have a new and improved "Fun Zone" at Henry Park. Guaranteed fun for all ages. The "Fun Zone" is held on the Frank J. McCoy baseball field. Activities start at 6:15 and run until 9:15. Bracelets which will be sold at the field for \$10 which will give people access to all the activities.

Hamster Ball – Rock Wall – Monkey Motion Jumper soars up to 20 feet in the air – Laser Tag hide behind bunkers, blasters are rubber tipped to keep you safe – Big Daddy's Racing race around a 30x30 track with computer scoring-Obstacle Course 65 feet long 7 tough elements – The Timberland monstrous 33 foot deep woods version of the wrecking ball – 2 Bounce Houses – Music by popular DJ – Photo Booths set up to take your whacky pictures. \$1 charge for each picture (not included in bracelet price). Face Painting by Laurie Hessler's Painted Faces \$5 charge. Delicious food and great ice cream.

Tony Martin To Play National Anthem

A Vernon resident for 35 years will perform the National Anthem at Henry Park at the portable stage in the Food Court @ approx. 8:30 Tony is a 6 year Naval veteran and a Vietnam era veteran and 9 time National Champion with the Blessed Sacrament Golden Knights. Martin is a 5 time Bugler Hall of Fame medalist.

Face Painting By Award Winning Laurie Hessler



Hidden Dragon Karate Helps You Park

Hidden Dragon Karate located at 458 Talcottville Road has been providing more than 30 instructors, adult students and parent volunteers to help direct traffic and safety control for the Fireworks Celebration for the past ten years.





July in the Sky



Schedule Of Events Henry Park

6 p.m. Gates Open
 6-9:30 Food served at Food Court near Horowitz Pond
 6:15-9:15 Fun Zone opens on McCoy baseball field
 6:30-9:15 Children's entertainment
 8:30 National Anthem performed by Tony Martin
 9:40 Fireworks begin

Schedule Of Events Downtown Rockville

6 – 9 p.m. Giant inflatables, carnival type games, face painting & food court Music- Meet Miss Greater Rockville and Miss Rockville's Outstanding Teen!
 6:45 3RD Annual Watermelon Eating Contest
 7:15-7:30 Judging of Parade participants
 7:30 National Anthem sung by Emily Hawley
 7:35 Parade and announcements of winners
 7:35-8:05 Push, Pedal, Pull, Patriotic Parade
 8:05 Miss Greater Rockville and Miss Greater Rockville Outstanding Teen, and designated Rockville Community Association members circulate to collect donations to help purchase next year's fireworks. Please be generous!
 9:40 Fireworks begin

Rules, Regulations, & Things You Should Know

-ARRIVE EARLY at Henry Park to park (\$5 per car) and to select preferred seating locations. Bring you blankets and chairs so that you can enjoy the fireworks comfortably.

-YOU CANNOT LEAVE UNTIL THE SHOW IS OVER
 APPROX. 10 P.M. Cars could be boxed in.
 -NO PETS ALLOWED INTO THE PARKS.
 -HENRY PARK CLOSES AT 4:00 FOR ALL ACTIVITIES
 -NO BICYCLES-NO SKATEBOARDS
 -NO FIREWORKS, NO SPARKLERS ALLOWED
 -NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ALLOWED
 NORTHEAST SCHOOL IS ANOTHER GREAT VIEWING AREA!

Rules of the Road and Traffic Rules Begin at 6 p.m.
 Road closures- Henry Park, Spruce Street, Tower Rd. after 10 a.m. Henry Park portions of Thomas Street.
 No foot traffic or vehicles allowed on Tower Road beginning 10 a.m. (residents of this area should plan accordingly, but will be allowed vehicular access)
 No Parking- Vernon Avenue, McLean Street, South Street.
 One Side Parking- High Street, Howard Street, Fox Hill Drive, Reed Street, Earl Street, Kevin Drive, Hale Street Extension, Crown Street
 Cars parked in Henry Park will exit onto South St. going West. Cars parked on Fox Hill Drive, Reed St., Hale Street Extension, Crown Street and White Street will exit onto South Street.

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Rockville Public Library



Mayor Champagne at Story Hour

It's going to be a busy summer here at Rockville Public Library! In the Adult Department, we have started our monthly Financial Workshop series. In June we will have 2 workshops, one on What to Do When Your Bills Increase but Your Income Doesn't and one on Financial Scams. We are still working on scheduling the following months. Our Summer Movies series will begin in June and run through

Labor Day. The movies are all recent blockbusters and are shown on Tuesday nights in our air conditioned community room. Our monthly book discussions will continue over the summer and we will have visits by local authors. Other programs include a genealogist, computer classes and the start of our new romance book club- Love

in the Stacks. We are also starting a new online e-newsletter with information and links to sign up for upcoming programs and news about the library.

The Children's Department will kick off their summer program on the day school ends. This year's theme is Every Hero Has a Story and the Children's Department has tons of fun summer programs like puppeteers, wildlife and concerts. There are opportunities to earn rewards as children read books over the summer and to track those books online or at the library.

Our READY to READ Summer Bootcamp will start at the end of June and go through the end of August. This program is funded by a Grant from the New Alliance Foundation and is open to children recommended by the Reading Consultants from Skinner Road, Maple Street and Center Road schools. This is a fun but intensive program for kids to keep their reading skills over the summer.

For more information please go to our website at www.rockville-publiclibrary.org. To sign up for the e-newsletter, send an email to sredfern@biblio.org.

From the Town Clerks Office

Did you know... that the Town Clerk's Office has been located in the same space since 1890 in the Memorial Building otherwise known as Town Hall?

Did you know... that Vernon was originally part of Bolton known as North Bolton until October 13, 1808 when it was incorporated into a town by itself?

Did you know... that Rockville was a hamlet without a name for a hundred years? The names considered were: Frankfort in honor of a pioneer, Francis McLean; Vernon Falls, Grantville, Hillborough because of the hilly nature of the village and finally Rockville.

Did you know... that in 1884 fifty-one telephones were in use in Rockville which dropped to twenty-eight in 1893 because most people believed that the telephone would destroy the privacy of home? By 1911 there were 800 telephones, 1915 had 1,000 and 2,000 by 1929.

Angie's list
2013 SUPER SERVICE AWARD

Angie's list
SUPER SERVICE AWARD 2014

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Above Lisa Reneson from Two Sisters Design, and Bill McMinn from Essex Printing, are shown with Lisa's book "Simple Pleasures." It was recognized by PINE for its outstanding print quality and awarded the 2015 Award of Excellence.



Photo by AC Proctor

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July in the Sky Fireworks

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Rain Date: July 2nd

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